

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of communicating data of a known data type from a source process to a destination process, the method comprising:
 - receiving said data in a source format
 - 5 from said source process;
 - converting said data from said source format to a standard format;
 - determining a destination address based upon at least one of said known data type and a source
 - 10 address that is associated with said source process;
 - transmitting said data in said standard format with said destination address;
 - receiving said data transmitted in said standard format at said destination address;
 - 15 converting said data in said standard format to a destination format; and
 - transmitting said data in said destination format to said destination process.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - when said data transmitted in said destination format is received at said destination
 - 5 process, generating an acknowledgment of receipt of said data; and
 - notifying a user of an error upon an occurrence of at least one of a specified number of other transmission attempts and an absence of said
 - 10 acknowledgment of receipt within a given time period.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein each of said source format, said standard format, and said destination format are different.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein:
said source format and said destination
format are identical; and
said source format and said destination
5 format are different from said standard format.

5. The method of claim 1, further
comprising, prior to said receiving of said data in
said source format, defining at least one of said known
data type, said source address, said source format,
5 said standard format, said destination format, and a
relationship between said destination address and said
at least one of said known data type and said source
address.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said
defining comprises accepting user input that defines
said known data type of said data.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein said
defining comprises accepting user input that defines
said source address of said source process.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein said
defining comprises accepting user input that defines
said source format of said data.

9. The method of claim 5, wherein said defining comprises accepting user input that defines said standard format of said data.

10. The method of claim 5, wherein said defining comprises accepting user input that defines said destination format of said data.

11. The method of claim 5, wherein said defining comprises accepting user input that defines said relationship between said destination address and said at least one of said known data type and said
5 source address.

12. The method of claim 5, wherein:
said determining uses said relationship
in determining said destination address; and
said relationship relates said
5 destination address to both said known data type and
said source address.

13. The method of claim 5, wherein:
said determining uses said relationship
in determining said destination address; and
said relationship relates said
5 destination address to said source address without
relating said destination address to said known data
type.

14. The method of claim 5, wherein:
said determining uses said relationship
in determining said destination address; and
said relationship relates said
5 destination address to said known data type without
relating said destination address to said source
address.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein said
converting of said data from said standard format to
said destination format comprises selecting said
destination format from a plurality of available
5 destination formats based upon said known data type of
said data.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein said
converting of said data from said standard format to
said destination format comprises selecting said
destination format from a plurality of available
5 destination formats based upon said destination address
transmitted with said data in said standard format.

17. A system for communicating data of a
known data type from a source process to a destination
process, the system comprising:
a source receiver that receives said
5 data in a source format from said source process;
a source translator that converts said
data from said source format to a standard format;
an addressing mechanism that determines
a destination address based upon at least one of said
10 known data type and a source address that is associated
with said source process;
a source transmitter that transmits said
data in said standard format with said destination
address;
15 a destination receiver that receives
said data transmitted in said standard format at said
destination address;
a destination translator that converts
said data in said standard format to a destination
20 format; and

a destination transmitter that transmits said data in said destination format to said destination process.

18. The system of claim 17, further comprising:

an acknowledgment generator that generates an acknowledgment of receipt of said data
5 when said data transmitted by said destination transmitter is received at said destination process; and

a notifier that notifies a user of an error upon an occurrence of at least one of a specified
10 number of other transmission attempts and an absence of said acknowledgment of receipt within a given time period.

19. The system of claim 17, wherein each of said source format, said standard format, and said destination format are different.

20. The system of claim 17, wherein:
said source format and said destination format are identical; and
said source format and said destination
5 format are different from said standard format.

21. The system of claim 17, further comprising a system manager that, prior to said data in said source format being received by said source receiver, defines at least one of said known data type,
5 said source address, said standard format, said destination format, and a relationship between said destination address and said at least one of said known data type and said source address.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein said system manager accepts user input that defines said known data type of said data.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein said system manager accepts user input that defines said source address of said source process.

24. The system of claim 21, wherein said system manager accepts user input that defines said source format of said data.

25. The system of claim 21, wherein said system manager accepts user input that defines said standard format of said data.

26. The system of claim 21, wherein said system manager accepts user input that defines said destination format of said data.

27. The system of claim 21, wherein said system manager accepts user input that defines said relationship between said destination address and said at least one of said known data type and said source
5 address.

28. The system of claim 21, wherein:
said addressing mechanism uses said
relationship in determining said destination address;
and
5 said relationship relates said
destination address to both said known data type and
said source address.

29. The system of claim 21, wherein:

said addressing mechanism uses said
relationship in determining said destination address;
and

5 said relationship relates said
destination address to said source address without
relating said destination address to said known data
type.

30. The system of claim 21, wherein:
 said addressing mechanism uses said
relationship in determining said destination address;
and

5 said relationship relates said
destination address to said known data type without
relating said destination address to said source
address.

31. The system of claim 17, wherein said
destination translator comprises a selecting mechanism
that selects said destination format from a plurality
of available destination formats based upon said known
5 data type of said data.

32. The system of claim 17, wherein said
destination translator comprises a selecting mechanism
that selects said destination format from a plurality
of available destination formats based upon said
5 destination address transmitted with said data in said
standard format.